

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 as follows:

Namely, the copying function of MFP does not necessarily require scanning/printing which is carried out by the MFP itself unlike independently constructed MFP, and thus it is sufficient that the image data which are read by the scanner being capable of performing the singular reading operation in a separate construction can be output directly on the printer. In this embodiment, a necessary number of printers 1 (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, ...) are connected with the one scanner 37 which includes the scanner engine 31 and the operation unit 36 and can be performed singularly as an independent machine without depending on the personal computer 5 via the server 3 having the printer management function. As a result, at the time of the copying mode, the document image is simply read by the scanner engine 31 according to the singular operation of the operation unit 36 similarly to the original copying operation, so that the read image data are supplied to any of the printer 1 (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, ...) via the server 3 so as to be capable of being printed and output. This practically makes it possible to ensure complex machine functions according to the number of the printers. As a result, when the copying function whose frequency in use is low is taken into consideration, the system construction is such that consumption of resources is less and efficiency is high because independently constructed MFP is not provided. When the example of the system construction in offices or the like is considered, for example, a necessary number of the printers 1 which are more inexpensive than MFP are placed on each floor, and one or two ~~serveres~~ servers 3 (with the scanner 37) are placed according to the extent of floors, thereby obtaining a simple system construction. As a result, the system which can execute necessary processes can be constructed.